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09/855,885	05/15/2001	Gil Lemel	451/65084	1481

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KEVIN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2674

DATE MAILED: 03/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/855,885

Applicant(s)

LEMEL ET AL.

Examiner

Kevin M. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-17, 20-22 and 26-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6-17, 20-22 and 26-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 May 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/13/2006
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is made in response to applicant's amendment/argument filed on 12/16/2005. Claims 6, 8-14, 17, 20-22, 26-32 and 34-41 are amended, claims 1-5, 18, 19 and 23-25 are cancelled, and claims 7, 15, 16 and 33 are previously presented. Thus, claims 6-17, 20-22 and 26-41 are currently pending in the application. The applicant's argument, see pages 12-14, with respect to the amended claims 6-17, 20-22 and 26-32, 34-41 necessitated the new grounds of rejection presented in this Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 6-8, 13-17, 20, 22, 33, 34, 37, 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bulatov et al (newly cited, US-PGPUB 2005/0233287) hereinafter Bulatov.

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4. As to claim 6, Bulatov teaches a method for the accession of hyperlinked documents by users having mental and/or physical limitations [abstract], comprising:

providing a computerized system [fig. 1] having I/O ports [USB port, paragraph 0024], and a parser for hyperlinked document applications [paragraph 0042];

providing hyperlinked applications/documents which comprises key accession events [paragraph 0039];

providing a dedicated keyboard device [a Braille keyboard 70, fig. 4] in which keys are designed and/or shaped [a movable pins/keys of the Braille keyboard 70 would change shape, see Zoom symbol 822, Fig. 11C, paragraph 0063] in such a way so as to provide an unequivocal mental association with a corresponding hyperlinked document and which are electrically connected with said computerized system [fig. 4, paragraph 0029];

pressing a selected key of said dedicated keyboard device [paragraph 0039];

establishing a link with a hyperlinked document associated with said key [paragraph 0039];

5. As to claim 7, Bulatov teaches wherein the keys of the dedicated keyboard device are shaped in the form of icons and/or symbols [elements 62, 66, 72, 22, and 68, see Fig. 4].

6. As to claim 8, Bulatov teaches wherein a standard keyboard device is allowed to remain operative while the dedicated keyboard device is connected to the computerized system [a standard keyboard 24, see Fig. 1].

7. As to claim 13, Bulatov teaches wherein the computerized system is in communication with a computer network and/or the Internet [a network interface 108, see Fig. 2], and the hyperlinked document applications are stored on computers/servers in communication with said computer network and/or the Internet [Fig. 2, paragraph 0032].

8. As to claim 14, Bulatov teaches wherein the dedicated keyboard device is provided with a unique identifying code, and computer/server in communication with the computerized system via a computer network and/or the Internet, interrogates said dedicated keyboard device, and receives said unique identifying codes [a Braille keyboard 70, Fig. 4, the Braille symbol is special codes or a unique identifying code for the visually impaired people, paragraph 0029].

9. As to claims 15, 16, Bulatov teaches wherein the hyperlinked document is an SGML document, and the hyperlinked document application is an SGML application, and wherein the SGML document application is an HTML document [XML document, see paragraph 0035].

10. As to claims 17, 33, Bulatov teaches wherein hyperlinked document/application(s) are automatically loaded to the computerized system whenever the dedicated keyboard device is activated, comprising:

providing a software application operating on said computerized system, said software application periodically interrogating the computerized system I/O port(s) to detect if said dedicated keyboard device is attached and active, upon detection of

activation/connection of said dedicated keyboard device [see paragraph 0033],
performing the following steps:

activating a predetermined SGML application utilizing an appropriate
parser, and loading an SGML document, said SGML document residing on said
computerized system or on other computer/server in the computer network
and/or Internet; and

accessing/navigating other SGML documents linked to said SGML
application, utilizing keys of said dedicated keyboard device [see paragraph
0035].

11. As to claim 20, Bulatov teaches a system for the accession of hyperlinked
documents by users having mental and/or physical limitations [Fig. 1], comprising:

a computer apparatus [a host computer 22, Fig. 1];

display means [a video monitor 26, Fig. 1];

a dedicated keyboard device [a tactile monitor 34, Fig. 1];

wherein the dedicated keyboard device [a Braille keyboard 70, fig. 4] comprises
keys which are designed and/or shaped [a movable pins/keys of the Braille keyboard 70
would change shape, see Zoom symbol 822, Fig. 11C, paragraph 0063] in such a way
so as to provide an unequivocal mental association with a corresponding hyperlinked
document and which are electrically connected with said computer apparatus, a link
being established with a hyperlinked document associated with a pressed key of said
keyboard device and causing said document to be displayed on said display means [fig.
4, paragraph 0029].

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12. As to claim 22, Bulatov further teaches wherein each key is provided with a replaceable key cover which is shaped in the form of an icon and/or symbol [the Braille format key covers may be specially designed to include textures, Braille characters, or to be carved to include shapes/patterns, see paragraph 0061].

13. As to claim 34, Bulatov teaches wherein the keys are marked or shaped so as to visually correspond to a hyperlinked marked portion of a document displayable on the display means [see paragraph 0061].

14. As to claim 37, Bulatov teaches wherein the URL calling means comprises a software module [see paragraphs 0047 and 0048].

15. As to claim 39, Bulatov teaches wherein the keys are shaped to facilitate manipulation thereof by blind people so as to result in the subsequent loading of a desired associated hyperlinked document [see paragraph 0061].

16. As to claim 40, Bulatov teaches wherein loaded hyperlinked document is provided with a linked audio file [see paragraph 0048].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

17. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

18. Claims 21, 26-32, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bulatov.

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19. As to claim 21, Bulatov further teaches a telephone set connected with the computer apparatus and enabling telephone communication via a computer network and/or the Internet [the host computer 22 includes a network interface 108 for network access, see paragraphs 0032 and 0051. In the dictionary, "network" is a system of computers interconnected by telephone wires or other means in order to share information, see www.dictionary.reference.com. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the computer of Bulatov including the telephone set].

20. As to claims 26-32, Bulatov further teaches wherein the dedicated keyboard device is provided with a unique identifying code, and a computer/server in communication with the computerized system via a computer network and/or the Internet interrogates said dedicated keyboard device and receives said unique identifying code [the Braille symbol is special codes or a unique identifying code for the visually impaired people, paragraph 0029. In the dictionary, "server" is a computer that processes requests for HTML and other documents that are components of webpages. A program which provides some service to other (client) programs. The connection between client and server is normally by means of message passing, often over a network, and uses some protocol to encode the client's requests and the server's responses. The server may run continuously (as a daemon), waiting for requests to arrive or it may be invoked by some higher level daemon which controls a number of specific servers (inetd on Unix), see www.dictionary.reference.com. It would have been

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obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the computer/server to communication with the computer of Bulatov].

21. As to claim 35, Bulatov teaches identification means suitable to identify it when accessing a web site, and automatic URL calling means suitable to force a browser coupled with said keyboard to open a web page the URL of which is supplied by said keyboard; said system further comprising one or more web pages the access from which is limited to specific predetermined web pages, the access to the World-Wide Web from such pages being precluded [see paragraphs 0047 and 0048. In the dictionary, "URL" stands for uniform resource locator which is the address of a web page on the World-Wide Web. World-Wide Web is a standard way of specifying the location of an object, typically a web page, on the Internet. Other types of object are described below. URLs are the form of address used on the World-Wide Web. They are used in HTML documents to specify the target of a hyperlink which is often another HTML document, see www.dictionary.reference.com. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the computer of Bulatov including the automatic URL calling means].

22. As to claim 36, Bulatov teaches wherein the URL calling means comprises a software module [see paragraphs 0047 and 0048]. However, Bulatov does not teach wherein the URL calling means comprises a hardware module. It may be realized by using hardware and by using the software on the computer are logically equivalent. Moreover, those skilled in the computer art it is obvious that such an implementation can be expressed in terms of either computer program (software) or a computer circuitry

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(hardware) implementation, the two being functional equivalent of one another. See In re Ruff, 256 F. 2d 590, 118 USPQ 340, 343 (CCPA 1958).

23. Claims 9-12 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bulatov in view of Kim (previously cited, US 5,892,503).

24. As to claims 9, 11, 12, Bulatov teaches all the subject matter claimed except for the input I/O port including a parallel-to-serial converting device (P/S port).

However, Kim teaches a related keyboard which includes the left connector 132 comprising enhanced PS/2 compatible communication connectors (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 37-39), having bidirectional I/O pins (fig. 2, see details in col. 7, lines 1-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the PS/2 compatible communication connectors as taught by Kim in the USB port of Bulatov in order to achieve the benefit of allow for digital interfaces between the keyboard and the computer system for increasing reliability (Kim, col. 1, lines 44-45).

25. As to claim 10, Bulatov teaches selecting a keyboard device that supplies an input to the computerized system by means of a selecting device [the menu of choices in response to a keyboard input or some other action of the user or host computer 22, see paragraph 0049].

26. As to claim 38, the combination of Bulatov and Kim further teaches an arbitration device comprising a parallel to serial converter [the PS/2 compatible communication connectors, see Kim, col. 7, lines 1-8], a selector [see Bulatov, paragraph 0049], one or

more serial I/O ports of serial device(s), and one or more parallel I/O ports of a dedicated keyboard device [see Kim col. 7, lines 1-8, and see Bulatov, paragraph 0049].

27. Claim 41 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bulatov in view of Inala et al (previously cited, US-PGPUB 2003/0187925) hereafter Inala.

Bulatov teaches all of the claimed limitations of claim 6, except wherein a first user interacts with a second user by inputting an identifying code of said second user.

However, Inala teaches a first user interacts with a second user by inputting an identifying code of said second user [method for using in response to private chat invitations, instant messenger (identifying code), and other communication attempts initiated by other session participants, see paragraph 0258).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the instant messenger corresponding to identifying code and other communication attempts initiated by other session participants as taught by Inala in the computer system of Bulatov in order to achieve the benefit of intend to notify the display for the user, because this would provide a method for responding to such requests in a way that other participants remain unaware that user is being represented by proxy (see Inala et al, paragraph 0258).

Response to Arguments

28. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 6-17, 20-22 and 26-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

29. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

30. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin M. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7697. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-THU from 8:00-6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, a supervisor Patrick N. Edouard can be reached on 571-272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8000.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the Patent Application Information Retrieval system, see

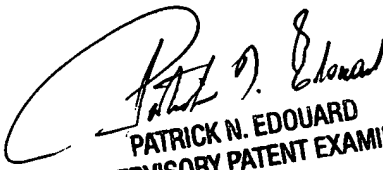
<http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair>. Should you have questions on access to the

Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197

(toll-free).

Kevin M. Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2674

KMN
March 2, 2006



PATRICK N. EDOUARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER